Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 ADDIS 04563 280521Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 H-01 SCS-03 /015 W
----------108113 281219Z /53
R 271457Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5002

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ADDIS ABABA 4563

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: CASC (LILES, ONA AND ROTH)

REF: STATE 172211

1. CONSOFF SPOKE PERSONALLY WITH LILES AFTERNOON 27 JULY. ENTIRE LILES FAMILY WHICH INCLUDES THREE CHILDREN ARE HEALTHY, REASONABLY HAPPY, AND NOW LIVING AT MENNONITE GUEST HOUSE IN ADDIS ABABA. NO RESTRICTIONS ON MOVEMENT OF FAMILY WITH EXCEPTION THAT THEY CAN NOT LEAVE ETHIOPIA AND CAN NOT RETURN TO THE GOOD SHEPHERD SCHOOL COMPOUND WHERE THEY FORMERLY RESIDED SINCE COMPOUND TAKEN OVER BY WORKERS WHO HAVE BLUNTLY TOLD LILES NOT TO COME BACK.

2. CONCERNING THE TAX PROBLEM, THE $500,000 MENTIONED REFTEL IS ONLY A RUMOR. THE GOOD SHEPHERD SCHOOL HAS EXISTED FOR 17 YEARS AND ENJOYED GENERAL TAX EXEMPTION UNDER OLD AGREEMENT BETWEEN FORMER IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT AND VARIOUS MISSIONARY ORGANIZATIONS OPERATING IN ETHIOPIA. THE CURRENT ETHIOPIAN GOVERNMENT CLAIMS THAT THIS AGREEMENT WAS MISINTERPRETED AND THAT GOOD SHEPHERD SCHOOL IS SUBJECT TO TAXES. THE INLAND REVENUE SERVICE (TAX OFFICE) HAS TOLD LILES VERBALLY THAT THE SCHOOL IS LIABLE FOR RIVE YEARS OF TAXES WHIC
H
LILES ESTIMATES TO BE ABOUT 180,000 TO 300,000 ETHIOPIAN BIRR (DOLLARS). THE PROBLEM IS THAT NO ONE WILL PUT THE LIABILITY QUESTION AND/OR SUM OWED IN WRITING. THE MATTER IS NOW BEFORE THE MINISTER OF FINANCE WHO CLAIMS TO BE TOO BUSY AT
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 ADDIS 04563 280521Z

PRESENT TO MAKE A DECISION. LILES HOPING THE MINISTER WILL DECIDE THAT NO TAXES OWNED ALTHOUGH THIS MAY BE A RATHER OPTIMISTIC HOPE. IF THE MINISTER DECIDES THAT TAXES ARE OWED, AN ASSESSMENT WILL BE DONE AND LILES WILL THEN HAVE TO CONTACT THE SIX MISSIONARY ORGANIZATIONS COMPRISING THE BOARD OF THE SCHOOL AND HAVE THEM COME UP WITH THE MONEY.

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

3. LILES BELIEVES THAT HIS WIFE AND CHILDREN MAY BE ABLE TO LEAVE ETHIOPIA BUT DO NOT WANT TO GO AT PRESENT. IF THE SITUATION DETERIORATES, IN A SECURITY SENSE, THEN LILES WILL ATTEMPT TO GET HIS FAMILY OUT. LILES PROMISED TO CONTACT THE CONSOFF ONCE A WEEK.

4. PLEASE INFORM CONGRESSMAN JOHN RHODES OF THE FOREGOING. ALSO CAN ADVISE THE CONGRESSMAN THAT LILES SPOKE WITH A PASTOR COOK IN MESA, ARIZONA, BY TELEPHONE ON 25 JULY.
TIENKEN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 27-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977ADDIS04563
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: n/a
Expiration:
Film Number: D770270-0689
Format: TEL
From: ADDIS ABABA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770716/aaaaangf.tel
Line Count: 72
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 100f8663-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE 172211
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 31-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1740642
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CHANGED> mcm 20041222
Subject: CITIZEN ASSISTANCE
TAGS: CASC, (LILES, ONA)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/100f8663-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009